



ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

23 JANUARY 2024

REPORT TITLE:	WIRRAL SAFEGUARDING ADULTS PARTNERSHIP BOARD UPDATE REPORT
REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR OF CARE AND HEALTH

REPORT SUMMARY

This report seeks to further update the Committee on the work of the Wirral Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board (WSAPB) and present the WSAPB 2021-2023 Annual report (Appendix 3).

The Care Act 2014 requires Local Authorities to establish a Safeguarding Adults Board in its area. Up until June 2021, the Merseyside Safeguarding Adults Board fulfilled this requirement for Wirral Local Authority; however, following the cessation of the Merseyside Board in June 2021, it became a necessity to establish a new Board for Wirral. This took place in September 2021.

This underpins the Wirral Plan 2021-2026 vision of Safe and Pleasant Communities and Active and Healthy Lives - working to provide happy, active, and healthy lives for all.

This is not a key decision and affects all wards.

RECOMMENDATION

The Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee is recommended to note the update report in relation to the work of the Wirral Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board and the 2021 – 2023 Annual report spanning the first 18 months of the Board.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 To ensure the Committee is updated on the work of the WSAPB and receives the Boards Annual Report.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 No update could be presented to Committee, but this could impact on the Committee's ability to fulfil their duty in protecting adults at risk.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Wirral Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board held its inaugural meeting in September 2021 and meets quarterly with the addition of two development days per year. The Board is chaired by an Independent Person, Sue Redmond, and is supported by a Board Manager and an Administrator.
- 3.2 The following diagram shows the current structure which was reviewed and updated in June 2022. The Structure will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure it remains fit for purpose.



- 3.3 The Boards Strategic Plan for 2022 – 2024 was signed off on 19 September 2022, and is attached with an update of progress to date (Appendix 1). Also attached is a visual minute's document (Appendix 2) from a Development Day held on 25 November 2022 with Board members and colleagues from Nursing and Residential Care Homes.

3.4 Safeguarding Adults Boards are required to produce an Annual Report detailing their work in the previous financial year to include safeguarding data and information on any SARs (Safeguarding Adult Reviews) undertaken. As the WSAPB was only established part way through 2021 it was agreed by the Board that the first Annual report for the WSAPB would cover September 2021 to March 2023. It was agreed that this report would be brought to Committee in January 2024.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 S.43(1) Care Act 2014 states that each Local Authority must establish a Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) for its area. Without having arrangements to have a SAB, Wirral will not fulfil its statutory duties. This will also affect S.44 Care Act and the role for the Safeguarding Adults Board to ensure that Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) are managed within the local area.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS

6.1 The Board is supported by 1 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Board Manager, 1 FTE Administrator and up to 24 days per year of support from the Independent Chair.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

7.1 If a Board were not in place, Wirral Council would be at risk of not fulfilling its statutory functions under S.43/S.44 Care Act 2014. This could place members of the community at risk of harm or abuse and/or neglect. These risks are mitigated by having a Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board. If it fails to monitor and report on its work the Board would fail in its, and the council's, priorities as well as the needs of the community. The Board seeks to mitigate any safeguarding related risks on the corporate risk register.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 A wide range of stakeholders were consulted in the lead up to the implementation of the new Board and engaged within a stakeholder workshop which was felt to be a positive and productive event. Moving forward a key priority of the Board is to hear the views of citizens including those experiencing services, families, carers, and those working within organisations and systems. Co- production is also a key priority, and we are linking with other key strategic partnerships around this i.e. Health and Wellbeing Board, Children's Partnership, Safer Wirral Partnership, Domestic Abuse Change Board.

8.2 All partners have been involved in the development of the new Strategic Plan through participation in development sessions and Board Meetings. Engagement with the Care Sector has increased through the Development Day held on 25 November 2022 and is the basis for more engagement work with the sector moving forward. Further engagement with partners has taken place throughout 2023 in the form of a SAB effectiveness survey, Care Quality Commission (CQC) assessment preparation and 'Let's Talk About Safeguarding' sessions.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Wirral Council has a legal requirement to make sure its policies, and the way it carries out its work, do not discriminate against anyone. An Equality Impact Assessment is a tool to help council services identify steps they can take to ensure equality for anyone who might be affected by a particular policy, decision, or activity. There are no direct equality implications from this report.
- 9.2 The pdf file may not be suitable to view for people with disabilities, users of Assistive Technology or mobile phone devices. Please contact the report author if you would like this document in an accessible format.

10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 There are no direct environment and climate implications. Current arrangements require less travel by the majority of Board members, contributing to a reduction in carbon emissions.

11.0 COMMUNITY WEALTH IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 The Board has a role to play in supporting the development of resilient local communities and community support organisations in relation to adult abuse and neglect both from a preventative perspective as well as identification and response.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - WSAPB Strategic Plan (December 2022 update)
Appendix 2 - WSAPB Development Day Visual Minutes (November 2022)
Appendix 3 - WSAPB Annual Report September 2021 – March 2023

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Care Act 2014
WSAPB Terms of Reference

TERMS OF REFERENCE

This report is being considered at the Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee in accordance with Section 2.2(a) adult social care matters (e.g., people aged 18 or over with eligible social care needs and their carers).

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee	18 January 2021
Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee	3 March 2022
Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee	26 September 2022
Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee	31 January 2023